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FM AMEMBASSY BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4288
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN 000198

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SCE & EAP/MTS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/01/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [UNMIK](#) [KV](#) [BX](#)
SUBJECT: BRUNEI STILL CONSIDERING KOSOVO RECOGNITION

REF: SECSTATE 69691

Classified By: CDA Justin Friedman, reasons 1.5 (b) & (d)

11. (C) Charge delivered reftel demarche to Datin Hjh Maimunah Elias, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, on June 30, emphasizing that the change in status of the UN mission and Kosovo's track record in unilateral implementation of the Ahtisaari Plan showed that Kosovo was deserving of formal recognition. Maimunah responded that the GoB is still considering the issue of Kosovo recognition. She admitted that decisions on this and other matters (septel) have been left pending as both the Foreign Minister, Prince Mohamed, and Foreign Minister II Pehin Lim Jock Seng, have been out of the country for over a month. Maimunah said that she would re-raise the issue to try to move Brunei to a decision as soon as possible. Post will report on any subsequent developments in Brunei's position on Kosovo recognition.
FRIEDMAN